



AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/635,611

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled) .

11. (Currently Amended) A stator comprising:

a cylindrical iron core including a plurality of slots provided around an inner circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core, a plurality of concave portions provided around an outer circumferential face of the cylindrical iron core, ~~a welded portion in which abutting end faces of the cylindrical iron core are welded, and a notch portion~~ and notch portions provided in an inner wall surface of ~~one~~ only some of the slots; and

a coil disposed in the slots,

wherein ~~the welded portion lies between two adjacent concave portions of the plurality of concave portions, and each of the notch portion~~ portions comprises a linear slit extending only partially through the cylindrical iron core in a radial direction so that the cylindrical iron core has a lower radial crushing strength at the notch portion than at other portions of the cylindrical iron core.

Claims 12-14 (Canceled).